

A.C. Van Raalte Institute

Annual Report 2003-2004



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Hope College

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A Message from the Director

The past year has been a very rich and full year for the Van Raalte Institute. New appointments were made, new programs launched, and plans were laid for a new home for the Institute. In this opening message, I will briefly summarize some of the major developments at the Institute. Before doing so, however, I wish to acknowledge the fine contribution of Dr. Jeanne M. Jacobson, Senior Research Fellow Emerita and Adjunct Professor Emerita of Education, as editor of our Annual Report.

I also wish to honor Dr. Elton J. Bruins and Karen G. Schakel for the publication of the definitive genealogy of the Van Raalte family, which they co-authored with Sara Simmons and Marie Zingle. *Albertus and Christina: The Van Raalte Family, Home and Roots* is a major contribution to the history of the family and the community. We congratulate them and their co-authors for this significant achievement.

The Van Raalte Institute is blessed with a wonderful staff, most of whom have their own reports in this Annual Report. Likewise valuable for their contributions are the translators and student research assistants. I extend a hearty word of thanks to all of them for making the Institute so productive and congenial.

The Philip Phelps Jr. Research Professor

In January 2004, Dr. Elton J. Bruins was officially named the first Philip Phelps Jr. Research Professor. His elevation to a named research professorship was well deserved, for he has built a solid reputation as a scholar; he has also nurtured the scholarly work of colleagues during his tenure as the founding director of the Van Raalte Institute. By establishing this new title, the President, Provost, and the Van Raalte Institute honor not only Dr. Bruins but also Dr. Philip Phelps Jr., the first President of Hope College. It is especially fitting for Dr. Bruins to be the first holder of this title, because no one has done more than he has—through his research and writing—to enhance the reputation of Dr. Phelps.

Appointment of New Senior Research Fellows

In December 2003, we named two new Senior Research Fellows. The Rev. Dr. Donald J. Bruggink is the James A. H. Cornell Professor of Historical Theology Emeritus at Western Theological Seminary. He is also the founding General Editor of the Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America. Information about his latest book, *By Grace Alone: Stories of the Reformed Church in America*, is found elsewhere in this report.

Dr. Earl Wm. Kennedy is Professor Emeritus of Religion at Northwestern College. He has been an affiliated scholar at the Van Raalte Institute since his retirement, working on annotating the Minutes of Classis Holland of the Reformed Church in America 1848-1876. The Dutch-American Historical Commission has endorsed the project and will join with the Institute in underwriting this very significant contribution to the understanding of the origins of our community and of the RCA in the Middle West.

In August 2004 Dean L. Overman (Hope 1965) was named Visiting Senior Research Fellow. Since 1977 he has been a Senior Partner at Winston & Strawn, Washington, D.C. He has been a Visiting Scholar at Harvard University and a Templeton Scholar at Oxford University. The author of a number of books and articles, he is currently in Holland working on a new book that is interdisciplinary in nature and fits the broad vision of the Van Raalte Institute.

Visiting Research Fellows Program

During my first year as Director, I asked the members of the staff to come together three times for retreats at which we reviewed and clarified our mission, developed a new initiative, and set forth a vision for the future. This year we have had our first Visiting Research Fellows, Dr. J. L. "Hans" Krabbendam from the Roosevelt Study Center in Middleburg, the Netherlands, and Dr. Lynn Winkels Japinga from our own Religion Department. A copy of the address delivered on 18 September 2003 by Dr. Krabbendam, "Dutch-American Identity Politics: The Use of History by Dutch Immigrants," was distributed with our 2003 Annual Report. Enclosed with this year's report is a copy of the address delivered by Dr. Japinga on 20 April 2004, "The Rain of God: RCA Growth and Decline in Historical Perspective."

At the end of August, we welcomed the first of two new Visiting Research Fellows for the current academic year, Drs. Hans Niemantsverdriet, a free-lance researcher, writer, and broadcaster from the Netherlands. After eighteen years as Lecturer in Sociology and Mass Communication, he spent six years based in London, but has worked in and from the Netherlands since 1990. He is working on two projects: an academic research project on the history of Dutch entrepreneurship in Western Michigan and the Chicago area; and a smaller, more journalistic project about the history of political preferences of the Dutch in the U.S. For the latter project, he plans to stay through the presidential election so that he can observe American politics at first hand.

Next May we will welcome Dr. Frederick Hale, currently at Wolfson College, University of Cambridge, UK. The author of some fifteen books and numerous articles, Dr. Hale will be working on a book on the Dutch in Wisconsin. Several of his previous books have also dealt with ethnic history, with a special focus on Scandinavian and Scandinavian-American religious history.

Theil Research Center

A major goal for the coming year is to move the Institute into a new research facility which will house both the Institute and the Joint Archives of Holland. We are excited about the realization of a dream that we have had for a number of years, for we envision that the synergy produced by this union will produce greater results than either entity is able to achieve on its own. In the future we also hope to expand research collaboration with students, to enhance our Visiting Research Fellows Program, and broaden our research agenda on local history. The description of the new Theil Research Center is given in a separate entry.

Tenth Anniversary Celebration

On 23 January 2004, we gathered in the Haworth Inn and Conference Center to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Van Raalte Institute. Anniversaries are a wonderful time to reflect on the past, to celebrate our accomplishments, and especially to give thanks to our God for innumerable blessings that have made our achievements possible.

President James E. Bultman, Trustee Peter H. Huizenga, and our Founding Director Elton J. Bruins all offered their perspectives on the founding and subsequent history of the Institute. We acknowledged the key role played by Trustee Huizenga and his family in the founding of the Institute, but we also paid a special tribute to him for his ongoing role in the life of the Institute, helping to preserve the heritage of Rev. Dr. Albertus C. Van Raalte, who in 1847 founded the community that became the City of Holland. Mr. Huizenga was presented with a bronze statuette of Dr. Van Raalte in appreciation for his continuing support for the Van Raalte Institute and for the College.



Jack Nyenhuis, Peter Huizenga, Jim Bultman, Elton Bruins

In my concluding remarks, I summarized the more tangible accomplishments of the staff during our first decade. Since 1994, members of the Institute have published 19 books and 87 articles and have given 222 presentations and interviews. The list of all these publications can be found on our website, <http://www.hope.edu/vri/>. I applaud my colleagues for their outstanding work and rejoice with them at what they have achieved, thanks to the support of the Institute and its endowment.

At the anniversary celebration I also took note of projects that the Institute will be supporting in the months and years ahead. Among them are: Elton Bruins's work on the correspondence between Dr. Albertus Van Raalte and the first president of Hope College, Dr. Philip Phelps Jr.; Robert Swierenga's definitive history of our city; Donald Bruggink's history of the Reformed Church in America, as well as his work as editor of the RCA Historical Series; Earl Wm. Kennedy's annotated edition of the Minutes of

Classis Holland of the Reformed Church in America, 1848-1876; and my architectural history of the college which will lay the foundation for a comprehensive history of the college in anticipation of our Sesquicentennial.

The first decade of the Van Raalte Institute has laid a firm foundation upon which to continue to build a tradition of scholarly excellence as we fulfill our mission, a mission rooted in the vision that the Reverend Dr. Van Raalte brought to our country in 1847, reshaped by the history of our city and our college.

Since Associate Provost Alfredo Gonzales was unable to be present to hear our words of appreciation to him at the Tenth Anniversary celebration, I will take this opportunity to recognize him for all the support that he has given to the Institute from its founding to the present day. He worked with Elton Bruins on developing the first mission statement for the Institute, on setting up a temporary office in Van Zoeren Hall, then on establishing a more permanent office at 100 East Eighth Street in 1996, and on all the intervening developments in the Institute's program. He supervised Elton for eight years and me for the last two, and has consistently supported all of us with his wisdom and genuine interest in our work. We could not ask for a more gracious or more supportive supervisor than Alfredo. We therefore pay tribute to Alfredo by dedicating to him this Annual Report, the first report of our second decade.

Jacob E. Nyenhuis
Director
A. C. Van Raalte Institute

Henri and Eleonore Theil Research Center

On 25 October 2004 Hope College will dedicate the new Henri and Eleonore Theil Research Center at 9 East Tenth Street. The Theil Research Center will house both the A. C. Van Raalte Institute and the Joint Archives of Holland. The newly-renovated building is a gift from Mrs. Eleonore Theil in fulfillment of a commitment that she and her late husband, Dr. Henri Theil, made to the College nearly a decade ago. Mrs. Theil resides in St. Augustine, Florida, where she and her husband settled after his retirement.



Dr. Theil was an eminent economist who specialized in the new field of econometrics. His international reputation was gained through the publication of 17 books and about 250 articles in professional journals. His works have been translated into and published in more than ten different languages. His publications began just before he received his Ph.D. from the University of Amsterdam in 1951 and the last one was published in 2000, the year of his death at age 75.

A native of Amsterdam, Hans Theil was raised in Utrecht, where he graduated from Gymnasium beta (the highest level of high school) in 1942. His university studies were soon interrupted by the Germans, who required that students sign a loyalty oath: Theil refused and went into hiding, but he was captured and jailed, first at Vught, then at Amersfoort. After a time, his family succeeded in freeing him by bribing the guards, so he was able to resume his education on a part-time basis, taking courses in economics. In September 1945, after the liberation of the Netherlands, he began the study of economics at the University of Amsterdam.

Dr. Theil began his career as a member of the Central Planning Bureau in the Hague in 1952, but soon also began teaching econometrics at the Netherlands School of Economics in Rotterdam (later renamed Erasmus University), where he served from

1953 to 1966. He was the founding director of the Econometric Institute in Rotterdam, which was established in 1956 and became the first university worldwide to offer a major in econometrics. During the decade of his directorship, he held visiting professorships at the University of Chicago, Stanford University, and Harvard University. In 1964 he accepted appointment as one of ten University Professors at the University of Chicago, but continued for a time to retain his position in Rotterdam. From 1965 to 1981 he served as director of the Center for Mathematical Studies in Business and Economics at the University of Chicago. He left in 1981 to accept appointment as the McKethan-Matherly Professor of Econometrics and Decision Sciences at the University of Florida at Gainesville, where he remained until his retirement in 1994.

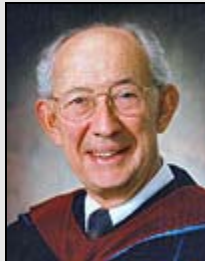
During his illustrious career, he received many honors: he was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences, and of the American Statistics Association; the Econometrics Society elected him President in 1961; and many institutions, including Hope College, conferred honorary degrees upon him. A festschrift, *Contributions to Consumer Demand and Econometrics: Essays in Honor of Henri Theil*, was published in his honor in 1992 by Macmillan in London and St. Martin's Press in New York; that same year a three-volume work, *Henri Theil's Contributions to Economics and Econometrics* was published in Dordrecht, Boston, and London.



Henri and Eleonore Theil, in 1981

Henri Theil and Eleonore A. I. Goldschmidt were married on 15 June 1951. A native of Karlsruhe, Germany, Eleonore Goldschmidt moved with her parents to Rotterdam in 1938. Her parents returned to Germany in 1947, and her father taught at the University of Munich. Eleonore met Henri in 1946 through mutual friends. She was trained in the law and practiced law in the Netherlands for about a decade, but she gave up her career to enable her husband to pursue his international career to its fullest degree. They gave their first major gift to Hope College in 1982, when they established an endowment in the name of their friend, long-time Hope College trustee Willard C. Wichers, for the support of faculty development.

The Van Raalte Institute and the Joint Archives of Holland are deeply grateful to Mrs. Theil and the late Dr. Theil for their generous gift to Hope College to establish the new Theil Research Center. We look forward to the synergy between our two programs and the new energy and productivity that should result from being housed together in the new building.



Dr. Bruggink

Dr. Donald J. Bruggink, as a successful alumnus you truly exemplify the very best of what we hope for in Central College graduates. You have lived the life-long adventure of continuous learning through your ministry with the Reformed Church in America, your professorship and work at Western Theological Seminary, your prolific writing career, and your role as editor of the Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America.

We honor you today as a 1951 graduate who is most deserving of special recognition for your commitment to mind, body, and spirit of others. With the approval of the Board of Trustees of Central College, I am honored to confer upon you the degree of Doctor of Divinity. Given on this sixteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand and four.

David H. Roe
President

Excerpted and adapted

**“The remarkable impact
of this small denomination”
*Dr. Bruggink reports***

The major focus of my work in the past academic year has been finishing and publishing *By Grace Alone, Stories of the Reformed Church in America*, volume forty-four in the Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America. *By Grace Alone* traces the history of the Reformed Church in America from its beginnings in 1628 to the present, including its acts of heroism, ecumenism, and conflicts. Its relation to Native Americans, as well as to slavery, is chronicled. The establishment of theological education made possible the remarkable growth of the church in the 19th century. The Dutch immigration to the Midwest in that same century, as well as the dynamics which brought the settlers here, and their resulting influence are also included, as is the growth of the church in the far west, Canada, and contemporary immigrant churches. The remarkable impact of this small denomination in missions and ecumenical relations is also a part of the story.

My editorial work on this historical series continues. *Travels of an American Girl* by June Potter Durkee, volume forty-five, and *Letters to Hazel, Ministry Within the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America*, by Mary L. Kansfield, volume forty-six, were also published this year, by Eerdmans. In the process of publication are two stellar volumes: *Iowa Letters: Dutch Immigrants on the American Frontier* edited by Dr. Robert Swierenga and *Can Hope Endure: A Historical Case Study in Christian Higher Education* by James C. Kennedy and Caroline J. Simon.

Travels of an American Girl is a unique volume, written by the precocious June Potter at the age of twelve, as she accompanied her parents on her father's journey of oversight of the mission fields of the Reformed Church from Iraq and the Arabian Gulf to India. It gives wonderful youthful views of the mission fields and their personnel at the high water mark of overseas missions. The actual letters to Hazel, in appreciation for her work in assisting overseas missionaries on their departures and returns, were the occasion for a full history of women's Herculean efforts in the cause of foreign missions. Kansfield places the movement firmly within its cultural context and sees the movement as the occasion for enabling women to move beyond their culturally defined roles within the home, out into broader spheres of institutional organization at local and national levels, fundraising, and international education and contact—all with such great success that they were in the mid-twentieth century the object of a merger with denominational boards in which the women received only a minority vote. In the process of publication are two stellar volumes: *Iowa Letters: Dutch Immigrants on the American Frontier* edited by Dr. Robert Swierenga and *Can Hope Endure: A Historical Case Study in Christian Higher Education* by James C. Kennedy and Caroline J. Simon.

The Reluctant Seceder from Chapter 12 of *By Grace Alone*

In Centennial Park in Holland, Michigan, stands a bronze statue of the Reverend Albertus Christiaan Van Raalte, founder of the Holland colony, Hope College, and Western Theological Seminary and seceder from the Reformed Church in the Netherlands. That secession places Van Raalte alongside the Reverend Hendrick De Cock and H.P. Scholte. Yet one finds in Van Raalte none of the rash invective so common in De Cock. And while Scholte led a group of Netherlanders to Pella, Iowa, he never joined the Reformed Church in America. When Van Raalte arrived in the United States, he was embraced by the Reformed Church, embraced it in return, and led his followers into its embrace.

In 1850, only four years after the seceders had set sail from the Netherlands, Van Raalte led the little Classics of Holland into union with the Reformed Church in America. For those early settlers, the members of the churches in the East had seemed like "angels of mercy." It's not surprising that the Reformed Church in America befriended Van Raalte's immigrants. Because that church had remained theologically conservative, and because it had thrown off the controls of the Classics of Amsterdam only a half-century earlier, there was great sympathy for these compatriots who were fleeing persecution for freedom of religion. Conversely, the same characteristics that made the immigrants attractive to the Reformed Church in America made that church attractive to Van Raalte.

Detailed Scholarship *Dr. Kennedy Reports*

For the past several years I have been working part-time at the Van Raalte Institute preparing annotations for the manuscript minutes of the Classis of Holland of the Reformed Church in America 1858-1876. The intent is to publish these annotated minutes, translated from the Dutch by William and Althea Buursma. I have just finished this project, having covered the period 1874-1876 during the preceding year.

The Institute has now requested that, during the next three years, I make annotations for the Classis of Holland minutes 1848-1858, which were published in English over a half century ago but with minimal footnoting. When this project is completed, it will be published together with the 1858-1876 annotated minutes. This would make available to the public a thoroughly footnoted translation of all of the Dutch minutes of the Classis of Holland, which went over to English in 1876. This classis, organized by A. C. Van Raalte and others, is important as the mother classis of the midwestern RCA as well as of the Christian Reformed Church, which began as a secession from it in 1857.

I have also worked this past year on the history of the Reformed and Christian Reformed Churches in the area of Orange City, Iowa, 1871-1921, in the expectation that this long-term project, begun about 1980, will become a publishable book. I have done research and translation work for several individuals and groups not directly connected with the Institute. I traced the descendants of an early immigrant to Sioux County, Iowa, and did translation work of a family history from Dutch to English. I spent a good deal of time last summer doing research in the Netherlands on the origins and ancestry of a difficult-to-trace early immigrant to Holland, Michigan. I serve on the Board of Directors for the Dutch Reformed Translation Society.

A Note on Footnotes

An example of Dr. Kennedy's annotations.

³ Rev. Antonie Jacob Betten (1813-1900) began his adult life as a shopkeeper in the city of Utrecht, was one of the first members of the Seceder congregation there (1835), and prepared for the ministry under its pastor, the Rev. H. P. Scholte, whose ideas (especially his fervent premillennialism) he embraced. Ordained in 1842, Betten was pastor of the (Scholtian) Noordeloos, Zuid-Holland, Seceder congregation until 1847, when he helped lead the emigration to the United States. He settled with the Scholte group in Pella, Iowa, and soon was one of the town's merchants and public officials, while frequently preaching in Scholte's independent church on Sundays. When, however, that body expelled Scholte (for questionable business practices) in 1854, Betten became its de facto pastor for the next three years, and co-led in bringing that congregation into Classis Holland (and thus the RPDC) in 1856, when it became the First Reformed Church of Pella. Betten was dismissed as its acting minister in 1857 largely because of his domestic difficulties (which would later lead to divorce) and possibly also because of opposition to his Scholtian ideas by the more rigorous Calvinists in the congregation. He then served, from 1858 to 1862, as the minister of the independent, small, Scholtian "First Christian Church" that had rejected Scholte but not joined the RPDC. His return to the RPDC at the start of 1862 may have been prompted by the possibility of ministry in the proposed (but never realized) new congregation in nearby Amsterdam, Iowa; see note 145 above. For the rest of the 1860s he continued as a businessman and preached at various places in the Pella area, while in the 1870s he was a home missionary for the RCA in small communities near Pella, before moving in 1876 to Orange City, Iowa, where he spent the rest of his days, preaching occasionally, publishing numerous articles promoting and defending premillennialism, and differing a couple of times with the local RCA classis. When he died in 1900, he was the last survivor of the half dozen Seceder pastors who led the 1847 Dutch immigration to the United States.

The Dutch Experience

Dr. Swierenga reports

This past year I spent most of my time writing a history of Chicago's Elim Christian School. The tentative title is *Elim: Chicago's Christian School for Special Children: A History*. The book will be published shortly by the Wm B. Eerdmans Publishing Company as part of the Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America, under the general editorship of Professor Donald Bruggink, also a fellow at the Van Raalte Institute. Peter Huizenga, member of the Hope College Board of Trustees and benefactor of the Van Raalte Institute, is currently chair of the Elim Foundation, and Heidi (Mrs. Peter) Huizenga is past president of the Elim Executive Board. The Huizengas's continuing generosity is making the publication possible.

A second major project was the completion of the editing and indexing of *Iowa Letters: Dutch Immigrants on the American Frontier*. The book is a greatly expanded English-language edition of Johan Stellingwerff's *Amsterdamse Emigranten* (Amsterdam 1976). The English translation was done by Dr. Walter Lagerwey, Professor Emeritus of Dutch Language, History, and Culture, Calvin College. *Iowa Letters* will be published shortly by the Wm B. Eerdmans Publishing Company as part of the Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America, under the general editorship of Professor Donald Bruggink, also a fellow at the Van Raalte Institute. *Iowa Letters* is a multi-year project of the Dutch American Historical Commission and is published under its auspices.



Bob and Joan Swierenga, Hans Krabbendam, and Elaine Bruins at the farewell dinner for Hans, 13 October 2003

“The Dutch Urban Experience”

Excerpted from one of Dr. Swierenga's publications.

Churches stood at the center of social life for the Dutch, whether rural or urban, and Christian schools were added to the mix in the 1880s for the Christian Reformed. By the 1920s, greater Chicago counted 12 RCA and 17 CRC congregations. The West Side had 2 RCA and 4 CRC, Englewood and Roseland had 4 of each, and South Holland had one of each denomination. Each church anchored its neighborhood and marked the Dutch Reformed as a people of faith who took their Calvinist heritage seriously.

While it was true that the Dutch Calvinists could live from the cradle to the grave within their ethnic cocoons, most rubbed shoulders with “outsiders” in work and play. Children faced the “world” first in the public schools. After leaving school, usually at age 16, they worked in non-Dutch businesses, factories and shops, or they serviced them as teamsters and craftsmen. Young women worked as domestics for Americans; and housewives shopped at the food and clothing stores of non-Dutch merchants. Try as they might, it was impossible for families to isolate themselves and especially their children from the economic and cultural life of the city, despite setting up Christian schools and banning “worldly amusements.” The urban walls were porous.

Here the country Dutch had the advantage of geography. Their communities were more ethnically pure and culturally tight, although, of course, no place, no matter how rural and isolated, was an island.

In liturgy and polity, the Reformed churches in Chicago are traditional. “Holding the line” in the church brought a sense of stability in an otherwise rapidly changing environment. The church was a cultural island where tradition was desired and valued. So Chicago churches were among the last to install women in office and to fight “worship wars.” Apart from congregations in the colony of South Holland, no churches in the 1990s have experienced major secessions. Chicago churches give full and faithful support to denominational ministries.

**Faithful Friends:
A. C. Van Raalte and Philip Phelps
*Dr. Bruins reports***

Since the publication in December 2003 of *Albertus and Christina: The Van Raalte Family, Home and Roots*, of which I was one of the co-authors, I have been able to return to my current major project, the annotation of the ninety-five letters that Albertus C. Van Raalte, the founder of Holland, wrote to Philip Phelps Jr. Phelps was principal of the Holland Academy and the president of Hope College between 1857 and 1875 and was a good friend of Van Raalte.

My work on this project has gone far more slowly than I would have liked. I was diverted from it by the need to do research into the Ben Van Raalte Farm and the history of Graves Library and Winants Chapel (a building at Hope College) and to make seven presentations to various college and local groups. I also continue to add documents to my Van Raalte files, adding one hundred this past year so that they now number nearly nineteen hundred. However, I have finished annotating seventy-six of the Van Raalte/Phelps letters, with twenty more to do.

I continue to oversee the Institute's translation program. William and Althea Buursma are making good progress on the translation of excerpts from selected articles that appeared in *De Grondwet*, a Dutch language newspaper that was published in Holland, Michigan, for many years. The articles were selected by Dr. Swierenga for his use in writing a history of Holland, Michigan, in the near future. The Buursmas are currently translating articles from the 1880s, the period when the Holland area was engulfed in a major conflict over the issue of Freemasonry. Nella Kennedy continues to translate documents in my Van Raalte collection, particularly documents that are difficult to read or understand. Mary Otterness and Erica Heeg, student assistants, have been very carefully and efficiently transcribing hard-to-read, English documents from the Van Raalte Collection.

***Albertus and Christina:
The Van Raalte Family, Home and Roots***

Elton J. Bruins, Karen G. Schakel,
Sara Frederickson Simmons, and Marie Zingle

Albertus Christiaan Van Raalte and Christina Johanna de Moen were married in 1836. They were married in a civil ceremony in Leiden on 11 March 1836, and then in an ecclesiastical ceremony in Amsterdam on 15 March 1836. Their first child was born ten months later on 15 January 1837. More children arrived shortly after, sometimes a year later, sometimes more, but there was never more than two and a half years between children.

Few details have been recorded about everyday life in the mid-1800s, about women's lives in particular, but facts like this give some hint as to what life might have been like for Christina during the early years of her marriage. She must have been incredibly busy. There was little time between children, so there was nearly always a baby to nurse and tend. In addition, she must have been a strong woman, with a great deal of stamina, to care for her family, including a baby, while pregnant with the next. Their last child was born in 1856, so her child-bearing years extended over a period of nearly twenty years.

Albertus and Christina had a total of eleven children, but only seven survived past childhood. The first six children were born in the Netherlands, in towns in the Province of Overijssel, Genemuiden, Ommen, or Arnhem. The last five children were born in Ottawa County, Michigan.

By the time the Van Raaltes emigrated from the Netherlands to America in the fall of 1846, they had been married ten years and already had had six children. Only five of them emigrated with them, however, as their fourth child died when she was just fifteen months old. The sixth child, who was named Christina Catharina, as was the fourth child, was a six-month-old infant when her family emigrated. The cradle her parents had for her while they were on board ship still exists and can be seen at the Holland (Michigan) Museum. The other children who emigrated were Albetus, nine and a half years old; Johanna, eight; Benjamin, six; and Dirk, one and a half years old.

Excerpted from Chapter Four

Administration and Scholarship

“The work continues apace...”

Dr. Nyenhuis reports

A greater share of my time this past year has been devoted to administration, so my research agenda had to be somewhat more limited. Planning for the Tenth Anniversary Celebration and especially for the renovation of an old building to create the Theil Research Center has taken a great deal of time, but it was time well spent, as will be evident when we move to the Theil Research Center shortly after this report has been written.

My research agenda for the year was amended when I received an invitation to contribute to a supplement to the *Lexicon Iconographicum Mythologiae Classicae*. Twenty years ago I completed an extensive entry on “Daidalos et Ikaros” for Volume III (Zurich and Munich: Artemis Verlag, 1986, III.1, 313-322; III.2, pl. 237-242), tracing the development of the myth of Daedalus and Icarus in Greek, Roman, and Etruscan art from the sixth century B.C. to the third century A.D. This international project involving some four hundred scholars extended over several decades. After the final volume was published, the editors decided to produce a supplement to update significant new developments in the intervening years. In my case, there had been a major archaeological discovery in Italy in 1988: a bucchero olpe dated in the third quarter of the seventh century B.C., bearing the Etruscan name of Daedalus, moved the known representations of Daedalus back almost an entire century. In addition, twenty years of research and publication had brought to light a considerable number of other issues that also needed to be addressed. I was both surprised and pleased by the number of citations of my previous work, but I also benefited from some helpful critiques of some of the entries in my article. I submitted my article at the end of June.

My work on the architectural history of Hope College continues apace, although the pace has been rather slow. I have benefited greatly from the assistance of Cynthia Bachhuber, one of our two student assistants. Cynthia devoted a considerable amount of time to the project during the first part of the summer, so we have accumulated fairly extensive files on many of the more recent buildings. I expect to devote most of my research time in the coming year to this project, although I have several smaller projects that will also require some of my time. Once we are settled into the Theil Research Center, with the Joint Archives in the same building as the Institute, it will be even easier to carry on these research projects.

Again this year I did some consulting for a fellow GLCA college, this time for Kalamazoo College. Working with colleagues from another liberal arts college always gives me a broader perspective, but it also strengthens my appreciation for my own college.

My service to church and community consisted again primarily of service on the Board of Trustees of Calvin Theological Seminary. I was recently re-elected to a second three-year term on the board and I was also re-elected as Vice Chair of the Board. Serving on the seminary board has provided a deeper appreciation for

theological education, but I have also been able to assist the seminary by contributing what I have learned from my many years in academic administration at Hope College.

I also serve on both the Dutch-American Historical Commission and the Dutch-American Heritage Committee. The latter organization sponsored Dutch Heritage Day on 13 November 2003, with Dr. James C. Kennedy as speaker. Dr. Kennedy is currently on leave from Hope College and the Van Raalte Institute to teach modern European history at the Free University of Amsterdam.

Publications

Abstracts of all articles in *Zeitschrift für Kirchengeschichte* 2002 for *Religious and Theological Abstracts*. (Earl Wm. Kennedy)

Abstracts of all articles in *Archiv für Reformationsgeschichte* 2002 for *Religious and Theological Abstracts*. (Earl Wm. Kennedy)

Abstracts of all articles in *Nederlands Theologisch Tijdschrift* 2002 for *Religious and Theological Abstracts*. (Earl Wm. Kennedy)

Albertus and Christina: The Van Raalte Family, Home and Roots. Elton J. Bruins, Karen Schakel, Sara Frederickson Simmons and Marie N. Zingle. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2004. (Elton J. Bruins and Karen Schakel).

By Grace Alone, Stories of the Reformed Church in America. Donald J. Bruggink and Kim N. Baker. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2004. (Donald J. Bruggink)

"Coming into Genealogy by the Back Door," In *Family Ties* (Holland Genealogical Society newsletter) 28 (3 January 2003): 3-5. (Elton J. Bruins)

The Dutch in Urban America. Association for the Advancement of Dutch-American Studies, Fourteenth Biennial Conference Papers, eds. Robert P. Swierenga, Donald Sinnema, and Hans Krabbendam. Holland, Mich.: Joint Archives of Holland, 2004. (Robert P. Swierenga)

"Dutch Protestants in America." In *Encyclopedia of Protestantism*, ed. Hans J. Hillerbrand, 4 vols. Florence, Ky.: Routledge, 2003. (Robert P. Swierenga)

"The Dutch Urban Experience." In *The Dutch in Urban America*, eds. Robert P. Swierenga, Donald Sinnema, and Hans Krabbendam, 1-12. Holland, Mich.: Joint Archives of Holland, 2004. (Robert P. Swierenga)

"Ethnic Glue and a Three-legged Stool: The Chicago Experience." In *The Outlook* 54 (March 2004): 5-10. (Robert P. Swierenga)

Letters to Hazel, Ministry within the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America by Mary Kansfield. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans, 2004. (Donald J. Bruggink, general editor)

Review of *Charles Hodge Revisited: A Critical Appraisal of His Life and Work*, ed. John W. Stewart and James H. Moorhead. In *Reformed Review* 57, no. 2 (winter 2003-04): online at <http://www.westernsem.edu/Pub/Index_RR.htm>. (Earl Wm. Kennedy)

Review of *Dutch Immigrant Women in the United States, 1880-1920*. In *Journal of American Ethnic History* 22 (summer 2003): 92-94. (Robert P. Swierenga)

A Step Forward for Hope College: The Building of Graves Hall and Winants Chapel. Holland, Mich.: Hope College, 2004. (Elton J. Bruins).

Travels of an American Girl by June Potter. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans, 2004. (Donald J. Bruggink, general editor)

Presentations

"The Benjamin Van Raalte Farm, Holland, Michigan." Lecture for the Holland Historical Society, 13 January 2004. (Elton J. Bruins)

"The book *Dutch Chicago* as a Teaching Moment." Lecture for the Men's Society dinner meeting, United Reformed Church, Wyoming, Michigan, 27 April 2004. (Robert P. Swierenga)

"Chicago Dutch Scavengers." Leendert de Vries/Meindert van der Kooy Lecture at the University of Michigan, 29 October 2003. (Robert P. Swierenga)

"Dutch Chicago." Bus tour of Chicago's Dutch neighborhoods sponsored by the Calvin Academy of Life-long Learning, Calvin College, 15 October 2003 and 5 November 2003. "Dutch Chicago" bus tour repeated 11 May 2004 sponsored by Evergreen Commons, Holland's Senior Citizen Center. (Robert P. Swierenga)

"Ethnic Glue and a Three-legged Stool: The Chicago Experience." Lecture for the Annual Meeting of the Reformed Fellowship, Grand Rapids, 25 September 2003. (Robert P. Swierenga)

"First Reformed Church's Storied Past: 150 Years of Faithful Service." Talk for the dinner celebration of the 150th anniversary of the First Reformed Church of Chicago, 4 October 2003. (Robert P. Swierenga)

"The Founding of Holland, Michigan, Its Development and Growth." Presentation to international students at Western Theological Seminary, 20 August 2004. (Elton J. Bruins)

"'Garbios': Chicago's Dutch Scavengers." Lecture for the Calvin College Heritage Alumni Chapter of Grand Rapids, 11 September 2003. Repeated for the Calvin College Heritage Alumni Chapter of Phoenix, Arizona, 11 March 2004. (Robert P. Swierenga)

"The Hidden Agenda Behind *By Grace Alone*." History workshop given at General Synod based on the book and introduction of the book to the Synod, 6 June 2004. (Donald J. Bruggink)

"Historic Holland, Michigan." Illustrated lectures given at Christ Memorial Church, 14 October 2003 and at Appletree Condo Association, 17 April 2004. (Elton J. Bruins)

"Hope College: Its Founding and Development, 1851-2001." Presentation to Hope College new faculty members, 25 August 2004. (Elton J. Bruins).

"How a Small, White Creamer Led to a Life-long Study of Albertus C. Van Raalte." Presentation at a HASP (Hope Academy of Senior Professionals) seminar 22 July 2004. (Elton J. Bruins).

"The Martyrs of Smyrna." Sermon given at the Church of St. Polycarp in Izmir (ancient Smyrna), 20 May 2004. (Donald J. Bruggink)

"Old Wing Mission and the Coming of the Dutch to Holland." Lecture for the Zeeland Historical Society, Zeeland, Michigan, 13 November 2003. (Robert P. Swierenga)

"Pillar Church and the Religious History of Holland, Michigan." Lecture at Pillar Church, Holland, Michigan, for international students at Calvin Theological Seminary, 21 August 2003. (Robert P. Swierenga)

"The Relation of the Reformed Church in America to Slavery." Paper presented at the Center for Reformed Church Studies, New Brunswick Theological Seminary, 29 January 2004. (Donald J. Bruggink)

"Relationship of Hope College to the Reformed Church in America." Lecture presented at a faculty seminar led by Steven Bouma-Prediger, 25 May 2004. (Elton J. Bruins)

"St. Paul in Greece." Presentation during the evening worship service at 14th Street Christian Reformed Church, 4 April 2004. (Jacob E. Nyenhuis)

"Turkey: Cradle of Christianity." Two presentations to HASP (Hope Academy of Senior Professionals), 7 January and 4 February 2004. (Donald J. Bruggink)

Interviews

"Who Killed Janet Chandler?" Interview on 21 October 2003, included in a documentary first broadcast on WGVU Channel 35 (Grand Rapids) in January 2004 and later rebroadcast on PBS. (Jacob E. Nyenhuis)

**Applications Invited
Visiting Research Fellows Program
for Academic Year 2005-2006**

The Van Raalte Institute at Hope College invites applications from qualified scholars for a fellowship offered through the Visiting Research Fellows Program.

Criteria for Selection: Proposals for support must demonstrate that the proposed research fits the Mission Statement of the Institute (see p. 20), that the scholar is qualified to conduct such research, and that the resources of the Institute and that of the Joint Archives of Holland are essential to the conduct of that research. A current curriculum vitae should be submitted with the application.

Application Deadline: Proposals are due no later than 15 January 2005. Further information may be obtained by contacting the Institute at vanraalte@hope.edu.

Mission Statement

A.C. Van Raalte Institute at Hope College

The A. C. Van Raalte Institute is a department of Hope College. Hence, its mission relates directly to and supports the mission of Hope College, an undergraduate liberal arts institution offering academic programs in the context of the historic Christian faith. The Institute is closely related to another department of Hope College, the Joint Archives of Holland.

The mission of the Institute is to honor the memory and the vision of the Reverend Dr. Albertus C. Van Raalte, the founder of Holland and Hope College, by studying his life and work. From this mission also is derived the scholarly investigation and publication of materials concerned with the immigration and the contributions of the Dutch and their descendants in the United States of America. Furthermore, the Institute is dedicated to the study of the history of all the people who have comprised the community throughout its history.

The Institute derives its vision from a letter dated 27 November 1846, by A. C. Van Raalte, written shortly after his party landed in New York. As he was headed westward, he declared, "I hope that a large colony can be established here in America which will focus its work on the Kingdom of God." His vision also extended far beyond the boundaries of Holland, Michigan, to other colonies and to immigrants throughout the United States. The bold Christian vision that he had for the church, education, and community continues to have an impact on the "colony" that he founded on 9 February 1847, and on the college which he helped to establish fifteen years later.

The Institute carries out its educational mission not only through research and publication, but also through the sponsorship of lectures and presentations by its members and its invited guests. Through liaison with scholars and educational and cultural institutions in the Netherlands and other countries, the Institute seeks to promote the understanding of the history of this community. From time to time, the Institute will host visiting scholars from these countries to enable them to engage in research in our local archives and to provide a broader perspective to our own endeavors.